

at berbarian race that has never the glad old story of Yule.

Eskimos's Real Santa Claus. s Jackson, an official employed

United States Bureau of Educa work in the wilds of Alaska, carmas to the Eskimo children He gave a deeply interesting

everal days immediately preced smas," he said, "I took occasion whites, and explained such feaout the day as my limited knowlthe language would admit of; so the close of school the day bepretty well know why it was

through the winter the almost endition of the natives had been ed on us that nothing but the

# IT the BEST

E. Harper Good Things to Eat" TE. SECOND SO.

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ed. I concluded to take enough from such as we had and give each family the same assortment. It was made up of a thr can filled with flour, eight navy biscuits, one pint of rice, one-half pound of sugar and one-third pound of tea. There are ten houses in the village, and about 100 persons all told. The supplies above enumerated were made up into ten packages.

merated were made up into ten packages.

"I had the herders harness one of the dear teams to a sled, and at 12 o'clock started with four natives for the village, a half mile west of the station.

"When we reached the first house. I took a flashlight view of the deer standing by the little skin window, through which a faint gleam of light was thrown from the oil lamp burning below.

"It occurred to me that perhaps this was the first time in the listory of civilization that a live Santa Claus made his midnight visit upon an errand of mercy with a team of reindeer, and that the Eskimo were the first to actually experience what throughout Christendom is only a what throughout Christendom is only a

"It became necessary to us and the frost from one corner of the window in order to get the packages through, and in nearly every instance the operation alarmed those below, when a package was immediately dropped down, and they be-

"While in my stooping position at the first house I suddenly lifted my eyes to the north and beheld the most gorgeous aurora I witnessed at any time during

"The night was a glorious one, cold and crisp, with the stars shining in lustrous spiender from the pale blue canopy above, and not a breath of air was stirring."

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"Across the whole northern horizon floods of wavy light surged and swept from east to west, sending up further into the heavens streams of vapory light, dancing up and down in graceful shadows that easily led me to imagine that they were caused by invisible spirits.

"For a time I forgot the object of my visit, and lay watching the play of the aurora as it shot forward and backward, and when I finally came to myself I looked around and found the natives lost in deep and silent awe at the spectacle.

"The hour I spent in this service was one of supreme delight to me, especially so as the little handful of food I distributed made the bright eyes of a hundred people glisten with happiness and supplied as many stomachs with a feast they enjoyed before they again closed their eyes

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"It will take too much space to record all the items I gathered as I peeped through their little skin windows and saw them dancing around in great glee, old and young, and expressing their thankfulness for the many good things received, the like of which they had never before eaten."

#### Where Santa Claus Caused Terror.

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Mrs. Bertha Stover, the wife of a missionary stationed at Bailundu. Africa, tells an amusing story of how Santa Claus terrified the black children at her mission station when he first appeared to them a year or two ago.

They had celebrated Christmas at Bailundu before, but they had never had Santa Claus, so Mr. Stover dressed himself up as the benevolent saint.

"He had been padded and powdered and packed until his own mother would not have known him," said Mrs. Stover. "Presently we gave the signal, the door flow open and in walked Santa Claus. But, dear me, what consternation!

"He was greeted with shrieks and groans and cries of:

"Let me out!"

"It is the Evil One!"

"It is the Evil One!"

"It is the day of judgment!"

"The small fry, catching the infection of terror from the elder black people, fied to the bedrooms, fell down prone upon their faces, crept under chairs and tables—anywhere to hide themselves.

"Poor Santa Claus never had such a greeting before. As soon as he realized the panic he had caused he tore off his tall hat and white cotton beard, and from the bars on his back began to throw gifts right and left, and to tell who he was.

"Reassured once more, they were soon."

sifts right and left, and to tell who he was.

"Reassured once more, they were soon all laughing and chatting munching the great 'red breads' (doughnuts), tasting their fruits, or nibbling at the sweets in the familiar little bags.

"One man wondered which end up he was to hold the fork Santa Claus had given him. Another immediately tried on his new shirt. The girls arranged their bright-hued hankerchiefs into nobby turbans, while others tried to find some place about their scanty clothing where they could stow away the bunch of thread, paper of needles and cake of soap given to them.

"Each one tried to talk louder than his neighbor, as they examined the costume of good old Santa Claus, who had frightened them simost to death. One man said he thought Elijah had returned, another that it was John the Baptlat. Yet another thought it was Satan himself, 'and all my sina rose up before me; while a fourth confessed."

A Christmas Feast That Nearly

#### A Christmas Feast That Nearly Caused Bloodshed.

The breef its benefit his breefit has blood is the life, but blood is the life, but below its below in the breefit has been to be be

and good will toward men."

Over a thousand natives were gathered for the great feast. The crew of a "black-birding schooner." eager to get Kanaka labor by fair means or foul for the Queensland sugar plantations, heard of the gathering and dropped anchor off the isiand on Christmas morning. The captain, however, seeing the numbers of natives, heatitated to molest them.

Telling the story Mr. Paton said.

Telling the story, Mr. Paton said: "My first anxiety was the labor schooner, but soon a new peril threatened. Some of the heathen had not met since war had raged between them. At first they simply glared at each other, and then old hatreds broke out and hot words were

'Again and again I started some content that would scatter the excited groups, but they soon came together again. Then I went from group to group and tried to spread a better feeling. Our Christmas gathering was nearly turned into a scene of bloodshed in our very garden, but fortunately all passed off most happily."

#### Among the Head Hunters of Formosa

Through the center of the beautiful island of Formosa there runs, like a backhone, a great range of forest-clad mountains. The original inhabitants of Formosa, a wild, savage, feroclous race of men, lice upon these mountains, Christmas was first carried to these people by a brave missionary named George Leslie MacKay.

ever ventured.

The favorite pastime of these savages was to cut off the heads of their enemies and decorate their huts with them. They had been indulging in this sport when MacKay drifted into one of their villages.

chiefs.

"The chief's home consisted of one large room thirty feet long," said MacKay. "A fire blazed at either end. The men, dressed in coarse linen sacks with holes cut for the arms, and a broad beit of brailed rattan, in which was stuck a long, crooked, sharppointed knife, stood around one fire; while the women, with much the game dress, save that in addition they had many rings of brass around their arms and limbs, and innumerable ornaments on their bodies, squatted around the other fire.

"So, on that Christmas night. I sat there with these rude people, the room lighted by the fires and by candles made from the heart of the fir tree. The men smoked their bamboo pipes, while the women were busy thread-making on curious little machines of their own, and all, men and women, were laughing and talking merrily and making a great noise. It was certainly a merry Christmas, and a strange one to me.

"After a time, with the help of the pa-"The chief's home consisted of one large

"After a time, with the help of the native converts who had accompanied me on this dangerous trip. I sang some Christmas hymns to these savage mountaineers, who had never seen a white man before; and I spent Christmas evening trying to explain to them the 'old, old story' that

ESKIMO. has been told so often in so many lands since the first Christmas morning."

The savages took great pleasure in the sluging of the Christmas hymns, and MacKay and his friends came to no harm by their beid expedition.

AN AMERICAN TEACHER

PLAYS SANTA TO THE

#### In the Hospital at Beirut.

One of the most beneficent institutions at Belrut, in northern Syria, where American warships have had to do police duty so frequently of late, is a great hospital founded long ago by the Knights of St. John, and now supported by a German society.

nected with the Syrian Protestant colleg at Beirut minister to the patients wh come to the hospital for treatment, an

#### Elk Horn Whiskey-Nine Years Old.

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now he quietly listens to the message of 'peace on earth, good will toward men.'
"There are many more, from Jerusalem, from Bagdad, from the Euphrates and the Tigris, from villages in Lebanon, Palestine, Cyprus and Asia Minor, Each receives a present, perhaps their first Christmas gift—a garment or book or toy—and all receive gingerbread, candy, oranges and other good things.

"No happior Yuletide festival is celebrated in any land than that in Beiritt at the Hospital of the Kuights of St. John." dector was able to heal it. Now this wild Bedouin sits calmly and looks at the Christmas tree and learns what it means, Once his hand was against every man;

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